

WILDCAT HUNTING.

One of the Favorite Sports of the West
is in Lower California.

"There she is!"
"Don't fire!"
"Give the dogs a chance!"

They and many other disconnected sentences came from a crowd of ladies and gentlemen who, well mounted and close upon a pack of eager hounds, were pushing into a thick patch of underbrush in the center of the Arroyo Seco, a dry canon or river just back of Pasadena, Cal.

Here the gulch was well filled with tall trees from whose branches there fell in rich festoons masses of wild grape and clematis that formed ropes that deftly caught riders beneath the chin, and so tied up the dogs that they often became fouled and yelped and howled in impatient rage. The party had started half a mile below in the clearing and had followed up the eager dogs that had now trod game of some kind, and, as they gathered about the broken poplar high up in one of the branches, there appeared a long, little body clinging to the limb, while over the side peered the ugly face of the wildcat. Excitement had been at fever pitch when the hounds struck the trail, but now that the animal was in full view, it fairly boiled over, even the horses appearing to be carried away by it.

"Stand back, ladies!" shouted the master of the hounds, who carried a light rifle, "these properties will jump for her life, and they will scratch when they land."

The ladies fell back a little, and a youngster in the party volunteered to climb the tree and dislodge the animal. He was a rider, he seized the pendent grapevine and swung up into the tree, and a few moments later was making his way along the branch toward the crouching cat. She was so intently engaged in looking at the dogs that at first she did not see him, but when he rounded the trunk she suddenly caught sight of the new enemy, drew back with a quick growl, glanced this way and that, as if measuring the chances, and, perhaps, would have jumped, when the climber deftly struck her from behind and down she went with a scream of rage into the red mouth below. The blood and fur flew, for puss was game, and not a few good dogs backed out, wiping their heads and ruffled ears. But the game was up, and it was with great difficulty that the skin was saved for the rug which is the trophy of the wildcat hunt.

Hunting this short tailed feline is a feature of southern California out door sports. The deep canons that radiate down from the Sierra Madre form their retreat and that of large game in general. After a rain the hunts are organized, and then the paw marks are distinctly seen and the scent fresh, and, as the storm clouds blow away from the mountain sides and the warm sun comes out the bay of the hounds of some sportsman is nearly always heard. The wildcat of this country is a large, powerful animal, approaching the lynx, also found here, in size and general appearance, and large enough to inflict dangerous wounds upon man or beast.

On one occasion the hounds came upon a fresh scent in an extremely narrow place in the canon, where precipitous rockrose on one side and heavy brush on the other. The dogs rushed into the latter, and a moment later a large cat bounded into the narrow stream and began an ineffectual scramble up the rocky sides. A bullet caught her before she had gone thirty feet, and, turning with a snarl of rage, she leaped directly into the air, fell upon the neck of a broncho, dismounted the rider, the mule, and before she could be dislodged tore and lacerated the animal in a fearful manner. Kittens are often seen in play to take one another in their mouths and to scratch with their hind feet, and it was this plan that was adopted by the cat. She fastened her claws into the broncho's neck, and with her sharp hind claws ripped and clawed until the animal was a mass of blood and lacerated flesh, then fell among the dogs, to be torn to pieces amid a protest that showed it to be among the gamiest animals.

"You may talk about your mountain lion," said an old hunter as we rode slowly up the Arroyo an early morning after the rain, with the whimpering dogs all about, "but I would rather take my chances with any one time than with a pair of wildcats at close quarters. It just seems as if a cat loses its head like they know they're caught, and they are just bound to have it out if it takes all summer. They fight, worse when there is a pair, just like a mountain lion."—Philadelphia Times.

A DECREASING BIRTH RATE.

Some Interesting Facts Concerning the Growth of Great Britain.

An eminent British statistician, Mr. Muirhead, has contributed some interesting information lately on the subject of the growth of the United Kingdom, which contains, at the same time, many encouraging and discouraging facts. Mr. Muirhead finds, for instance, that while the population of the United Kingdom is increasing only 12 per cent. per decade, its wealth is growing 22 per cent. during the same time, its trade 29, and its shipping 67.

In vital statistics it is shown that the death rate is rapidly decreasing, that fewer children die and that people live to much greater age than formerly. But what particularly strikes Mr. Muirhead and alarms him for the future of Great Britain is the fact that the proportion of births to the population is steadily decreasing and has been decreasing for years. Births per 1,000 of population fell off about 5 1/2 per cent a year in the period 1871-85, as compared with 1876-80, while the marriage rate declined only 1 1/2 per cent.

Mr. Muirhead recognizes the fact that these figures "give ground for an apprehension of physical decadence," and calls upon the British Medical Association to make a report upon it at the next session. Examining the figures by geographical divisions, he finds that the natural increase in population, or the excess of births over deaths, is at the rate of 14.3 per 1,000 inhabitants in England and Wales, 13.9 in Scotland and only 6.4 in Ireland. This is especially significant in view of the fact that marriages are not as childless in Ireland as in England, and more children are born to each marriage; but on the other hand, the marriage rate in Ireland is now the lowest in the world, and steadily declining in consequence of the emigration of men and women in the prime of life. The result of this low birth rate is very unfavorable to the country, the decrease in births amounting to 55,000 per year, as compared with the last decade.

Such facts as these are always alarming, but a low birth rate seems to come with civilization and wealth. France has reached nearly a stationary position in regard to population, the number of births being just sufficient to keep up the population. New England has about reached that state, and its population would in all probability decline but for immigration, and Mr. Muirhead's figures

would indicate that Great Britain, in the past several decades, has been unable to colonize the world, is rapidly approaching that condition of physical decadence where the number of births will be barely sufficient to prevent a decline in the population of the country.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Sulphur in the Air.

The quantity of burnt sulphur that escapes into the air is very great. Seven and a half millions of tons of coal are annually consumed in London. Now, the average amount of sulphur in English coal is 1 1/4 per cent. That would give 93,750 tons of sulphur burned every year in London fires. If we consider that on an average twice the quantity of coal is consumed on a winter day that is consumed on a summer day, no less than 347 tons of sulphur are thrown into the atmosphere every winter day in London. This is an alarming quantity, quite sufficient to account for the density of the fogs in that city. But would it be advisable to diminish the escape of sulphur from the chimneys? Is it not better to "bear the ills" of the fogs than "fly to others" the which absence of sulphur might encourage? Burned sulphur is not an unmitigated evil. During the fogs the air is still and stagnant; there is no current to clear away the deadly germs that are being vomited into the air from the pestilential hotbeds of the lowest slums. These death laden germs might be more fatal in the propagation of the disease if the deodorizing and aseptic properties of the sulphur were not busy at work.—Boston Herald.

Not Lazy by Any Means.

There is not so much laziness in the worst people you want to make out. We all work, but it's always the other people who are lazy. Now take the case of that wealthy traveler who lived at one of our hotels. He did not need to work. He did not work; but what was he doing? He was a man who could be the hero of this story? He had a most expensive suite of rooms and no end of extras. A friend went up to call on him in the forenoon and found him just at breakfast. He was drinking tea and eating toast and things. His manner was easy and deliberate. He had finished the cup, and he looked calmly into it. Then he rose and walked across the room and rung the bell. The servant came. "Ah!" said the said, "Walter, I want another cup of tea." "Certainly, sir," said the waiter, and he calmly walked to the table, took up the teapot and poured the tea into the cup. "Thank you," said the Englishman, and went on with his breakfast.—San Francisco Chronicle.

CANCER CAN BE CURED.

Operations Succeed in Every Case to Prolong Life—Interesting Statistics.

The question whether or not cancer is curable by operation is one of vital importance to those who may have the disease. It is popularly supposed to be incurable, but statistics prove that it is not so. In estimating the value of operations for cancer we must consider the duration of the disease when left to itself. Egbert, in 139 cases, gives the duration of life in 75 not operated upon as 48 months, while in the remaining 64, where one or more operations had been performed, the life average was 32 months. Sillars, in 84 cases, makes the average 12 months in cases not operated upon, and 12 months in cases where excision was practiced. The longest duration of life in 12 cases operated upon is 12 years, in 12 cases operated upon 18 years. While these statistics go to prove that operation prolongs life, they do not prove an ultimate cure. Dr. Olickop shows in his report that out of 229 cases where operations had been performed 23 recovered. Dr. Vincent Parker believed in operations for the disease. In a paper read before the Medical Journal Association in September, 1873, he reports 14 cases of cure by excision, the patients being in good health at the ends of periods varying from 3 to 27 years. A mass of statistics might be brought to show that in many instances cancer has been radically cured, and in other cases life has been indefinitely prolonged by the use of the knife. A few special cases will serve to show this. Dr. Weir reports a case in which the right breast was amputated by Dr. James R. Wood in 1856. In 1867 Dr. Post amputated the left breast. In 1873 Dr. Weir removed a recurrent growth from the right side, and again in 1877 and 1880, the patient finally dying of the disease 25 years after its first appearance. Dr. Frank H. Hamilton operated upon a patient who survived the excision 20 years, and another patient of his, whose breast was entirely removed, survived the operation for 10 years. Cases of this description might be multiplied. Dr. Shady, Gen. Grant's physician, claims that the disease is organic, and in no way hereditary. He believes that the disease is local, and is therefore removable, and that the constitution becomes affected only secondarily by a more or less widespread dissemination of original cancer germs. The failure of one excision to affect a cure in no wise disconcerts him. "The disease is insidious, and a careful microscopic examination is necessary to follow its various ramifications. Where the growth is not in proximity to the vital organs, operation after operation may be tried with impunity. In the case of Gen. Grant, the entire throat was affected and an operation meant certain death, otherwise an operation would have been tried. It is an exception for more than one member of a family to become the victim of cancer. In fact it may be confidently said that no human being can be sure of escaping the disease until he has passed the age of its occurrence, which is when his vital machinery is entirely worn out. In other words he can never be considered fortunate in respect to cancer until he is dead."

An Efficient Fire Department.

I was present at a big fire in Tangier, where the helplessness of the Moors in cases of emergency was exemplified. A sort of extemporized fire brigade of blacks and Moors was formed, but their method of extinguishing the flames would have astonished a London fireman. It consisted of sending negroes by twos and threes down to the beach, some quarter of a mile distant, each with one small basket on his head, which he filled with sand; then trotting back, poured it on the fire and returned for more. If jabbering and gesticulating could have put out the flames, little damage would have been done; as it was, the house was completely gutted.—Foreign Letter.

Striking Results in Hog Fattening. In a study of pigs, the American consul at Copenhagen has added thirty pounds to the weight of some animals by having them daily washed. Besides cleanliness, easily masticated food gave some striking results. When whole corn is fed them, only half of it is available as food, the other half passing away in an undigested form.—Arkansas Traveler.

Ancient British Wigwags.

The earthen floors of eighteen ancient British wattle huts or wigwags exist on the downs east of Dunstable. A land owner is demolishing them, much to the horror of antiquaries.

"DON'T YOU WORRY."

How Shrewd Business Men Have Solved a Great Problem.

"Is there a fatality among our prominent men?" is a question that we often ask. It is a question that perplexes our leading medical men, and they are at a loss to know how to answer it.

We sometimes think that if the physicians would give part of the energy to the consideration of this question that they give to combating other schools of practice, it might be satisfactorily answered.

The fights of "isms" remind us often of the quarrels of old Indian tribes, that were only happy when they were annihilating each other.

If Allopathy makes a discovery that promises good to the race, Homoeopathy derides it and breaks down its influence. If Homoeopathy makes a discovery that promises to be a boon to the race, Allopathy attacks it.

It is absurd that these schools should fancy that all of good is in their methods and none in any other.

Fortunately for the people, the merit which these "isms" will not recognize, is recognized by the public and this public recognition, taking the form of a demand upon the medical profession, eventually compels it to recognize it.

Is it possible that the question has been answered by shrewd business men? A prominent man once said to an inquirer, who asked him how he got rich, "I got rich because I did things while other people were thinking about doing them." It seems to us that the public have recognized what this fatality is, and how it can be met, while the medical profession have been waiting for it.

By a careful examination of insurance reports we find that there has been a sharp reform with reference to examination (and that no man can now get any amount of insurance who has the least development of kidney disorder), because they find that sixty out of every hundred in this country do, either directly or indirectly, suffer from kidney disease. Hence, no reliable company will insure a man except after a rigid urinary examination.

This reminds us of a little instance which occurred a short time ago. A fellow editor was an applicant for a respectable amount of insurance. He was rejected on examination, because, unknown to himself, his kidneys were diseased. The shrewd agent, however, did not give up the case. He had an eye to business and to his commission, and said: "Don't you worry; you get a half dozen bottles of Warner's safe cure—all dealers keep it—take it according to directions and in about a month come around, and we will have another examination. I know you will find yourself all right and will get your policy."

The editor expressed surprise at the agent's faith, but the latter replied: "This point is a valuable one. Very many insurance agents all over the country, when they find a customer rejected for this cause, give similar advice, and eventually he gets the insurance."

What are we to infer from such circumstances? Have shrewd insurance men, and other shrewd business men, found the secret answer to the inquiry? Is it possible that our columns have been proclaiming, in form of advertisements, what has proved a blessing in disguise to millions, and yet by many ignored as an advertisement?

In our files we find thousands of strong testimonials for Warner's safe cure, no two alike, which could not exist except on a basis of truth; indeed, they are published under a guarantee of \$5,000 to any one who will disprove their correctness, and this offer has been standing ever we are told, for more than four years.

Undoubtedly this article, which is simply dealing out justice, will be considered as an advertisement and be rejected by many as such.

We have not space nor time to discuss the proposition that a poor thing could not succeed to the extent that this great remedy has succeeded, could not become so popular without merit even if pushed by a Vanderbilt or an Astor.

Hence we take the liberty of telling our friends that it is a duty that they owe to themselves to investigate the matter and reflect carefully for the statements published are subject to the refutation of the entire world. None have refuted them; on the contrary, hundreds of thousands have believed them and proved them true, and in believing have found the highest measure of satisfaction, that which money cannot buy, and money cannot take away.

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SURPLUS 2,851,454.94

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ABSTRACT OF

Annual Report to the Legislature,

showing the condition of the Bloomfield Savings Institution on the morning of January 1, 1887.

ASSETS.

Loans on Bond and Mortgage (first liens) \$72,000 00

Interest due and accrued 2,316 52

United States Bonds (market value) 13,500 00

Cash on hand and in banks 8,301 61

\$96,667 08

LIABILITIES.

Due Depositors, including Interest to be credited this day \$68,192 69

Surplus \$8,474 39

Interest is credited to depositors on the first day of January and July, on all sums which have remained on deposit for the three months or six months then ending. And this interest stands to the credit of the depositor in the same way as principal, and bears interest from those dates, as well as all new deposits made on or before the first business day in January, April, July and October.

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